



THE SPECIAL EDIT

As well as our regular newsstand edition, Star Wars Insider is also available with this exclusive variant cover (same content). Only available from selected comic stores.

www.titanmagazines.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW: 6 ISSUES FOR ONLY \$24.95

Visit www.titanmagazines.com for full details.

DEPARTMENTS

06 EDITOR'S WELCOME

The view from inside Insider, plus details on how to contact the magazine team.



INSIDE THE UNIQUE STAR WARS INSIDER PREVIEW SECTION



Discover C-3PO and R2-D2's greatest

literary moments!

COMICS

The Yuuzhan Vong invade the comics pages, plus news of an exciting preview comic!

Find out why Darth Vader is the most collectible character in the Star Wars saga!

The Imperials get shrunk down to size, fans get a good reason to party. and we preview that Jabba costume you've always wanted!

70 BOUNTY HUNTERS

A host of lucky fans get up close and personal with their Star Wars idols -and win prizes, tool:

72 BANTHA TRACKS

Check out our tribute to the greatest fans in the world!

76 CLASSIC MOMENT

Darth Vader again becomes Anakin Skywalker in this unforgettable scene from Return of the Jedi.

46 A LONG TIME

the Star Wars books coming soon!

The Clone Wars arrives on DVD. Battlefront

goes mobile and we look to the future to check.

Han becomes slightly slower on the draw!

It's the battle of the bodyguards as an Emperor's Royal Guard squares up to a MagnaGuard!





CA 90045-5977 USA UNITED KINGDOM Star Ware Insider 144 Southwark Street SET OUP United Kingdom

To subscribe to in the US please call toll free on 865-205-0034. For UK and all other destinations. please call 0070-428-0215.

Part of the joy of Star Wars: The Clone Wars is that chance to see Anakin as the man described by his teacher and friend all those years ago. His character is further enriched by his relationship with his own Padawan, the plucky and

irresistible Ahsoka, who has already proved to be a wonderful) addition to the ongoing saga. Neither character would have as much verve were it not for the voice talents of Matt Lanter and Ashley Eckstein, who breathe life into Star Wars' latest double act. Check out page 16 for a special extended interview with these newest, and very welcome, members of the Star Wars family.

The Star Wars saga's own father figure, the fearsome Darth Vader, aka actor David Prowse shares some of his memories of his time as the ultimate screen villain. A little known fact: David's car used to belong to R2-D2 himself, Kenny Baker! It's true; next time you see him at a convention, go ask him!

Elsewhere in this issue, we talk to the fabulous Femi Taylor who-briefly-lent a touch of glamor to the court of Jabba the Hutt. Check out her stories about the filming of Return of the Jedi, and her second run-in with the fearsome rancor when she came back to reprised her role as Jabba's dancer for ... the Special Edition.

together, but the task of binding together episodes of Star Wars: The Clone Wars falls to lason Tucker whose tight.

DARTH VADER!

Jump to hyperspeed and head for page 16 for an exclusive chat with the Dark Lord of the Sith. David Prowse!

fast-paced, editing has helped make the show the weekly thrill ride that it is! In this issue of Insider, he talks about what makes the show so much fun to work on, and what it's like working with George Lucas!

What's coming up? Well, get ready for our spectacular 100 page salute to celebrate 10 years since Star Wars movies came roaring back into our galaxy with Episode I. And beyond that, even more unbeatable Star Wars coverage!

May the Force be with you all,

Jonathan Wilkins, Editor

ALL THE LATEST NEWS, FUN, GAMES AND GOSSIP FROM THE STAR WARS UNIVERSE

STAR WARS: THE CLONE WARS HITS DVD!

our of the most popular episodes from the hit animated series Star Wars: The Clone Wars will come to DVD from Warner Home Video and Lucasfilm Ltd. on March 24. 2009 in the U.S. and Canada, and later internationally. Meanwhile, Cartoon Network International started airing the series in more than 150 countries inthe middle of February, in some places for the first time and in others as new airings on Cartoon Network's owned or affiliated channel.

The release of Star Wars: The Clone Wars "A Galaxy Divided" marks the very first time the weekly adventures from Lucasfilm Animation have been available on the DVD format.

The disc showcases four exciting episodes: Ambush, featuring a showdown between Jedi Master Yoda and the villainous Asajj Ventress; and the threeepisode "Malevolence" story arc: Rising Malevolence, Shadow of Malevolence and Destroy Malevolence. In these episodes, Anakin Skywalker, Ahsoka Tano and Obi-Wan Kenobi lead a mission to find and destroy a massive warship that is under the command of General Grievous.

"As its incredibly successful run on Cartoon Network in the U.S. and elsewhere internationally has shown, Star Wars: The Clone Wars appeals to a very extensive. very loyal audience that spans a wide range," said Doug Yates, vice president of marketing, distribution, and online at Lucasfilm, "Many kids and parents have told us they want to own their favorite

episodes right away, which is why we are releasing this compilation as well as a second four-episode compilation this summer."

Meanwhile, for fans eager to own the entire first season of Star Wars: The Clone Wars, Lucasfilm is in the midst of producing a multi-disc boxed set that is expected to debut later in 2009. Full details of the Season One DVD boxed set, which also will mark the first Blu-Ray appearance of the series, will be announced later this year. The collection will include substantial bonus material that is currently in production at Lucasfilm, including explorations of the behind-the-scenes creation of the hit series.

Long-time Star Wars fans are eager for a collection that offers great depth and has detailed bonus materials," Yates said. "We hope our DVD releases will offer something to please everyone, just as the first season of the series has done week after week."

The series also airs on channels in more than 150 countries worldwide, including many Cartoon Network International outlets around the globe, where it started running from the middle of February. 49

EXPANDED UNIVERSE >>>

Star Wars: The Clone Wars 'A Galaxy Divided' will have a retail price of \$19.98





n an exchange between two great franchises, Ben Burtt has lent his talents to J.J. Abrams new Star Trek movie, while Star Trek's Mr. Sulu, George Takei, recently supplied the voice of Clone Wars villain Lok Durd.

Speaking to newsarama.com, Takei said, They showed me a drawing of the character and the first thing I thought was 'Oh no! Not again!' because I had done the voice of the First Ancestor in Disney's

Mulan. That was also a huge, enormously obese character. Lok Durd is also immensely obese! When I saw the finished product I couldn't help but realize it was amazingly well done. When Lok Durd moves, you can see his stomach, arms and legs, all his flesh, just jiggle. The animation is amazing!"

Meanwhile, in another galaxy, one of the last people to join the Star Trek movie team was Academy Award-winning sound designer Ben Burtt. Burtt worked on all six Star Wars films and created most of the iconic sounds, including Chewbacca's growl, the lightsabers' hum and R2-D2's bloops and bleeps!

THE CLONE WARS CAST!

Burtt and his Skywalker Sound protégé Matthew Wood were nominated for an Academy Award earlier this year for Achievement in Sound Editing for Wall-E. Burtt also voiced the title character in the Pixar hit.

BATTLEFRONT GOES MOBILE!

NEW VERSION OF GAME ANNOUNCED FOR FANS ON THE MOVE!

IHQ announced a brand new Star Wars Battlefront game for the mobile platform. A Star Ways Battlefront mobile game was released in 2005, and although details are scarce at press time, the new game is said to include Count Dooku, the Emperor and Yoda as well as Princess Leia. More details in our next issue! *



WRITING FORCE

THE FORCE UNLEASHED SNAGS ING NOMINATION!

he hit videogame, Star Wars: The Force Unleashed was recently nominated for the best videogame writing in 2008 by the Writers Guild of America. The story, which tells the tale of Darth Vader's Secret Apprentice, has been widely praised by fans and critics as a strong expansion of the saga.

The writing team included Haden Blackman, Shawn Pitman, John Stafford, and Cameron Suey. Congratulations, guys!



STAR WARS TIME FRAME







Above: George Lucas keeps a watchful eye on some of his galaxy's toughest bad guys on the sets of Star Wars and The Empire Strikes Back!

Top two: Peter Cushing (Grand Molf Tarkin), Lucas, Carrie Fisher (Princess Leia), David Prowse (Darth Vader)

Bottom: Lucas, David Prowse (Darth Vader), Irvin Kershner (director, The Empire Strikes Back)

HE BEST OF

Clone Wars

Video

Games

Movies:

Fans

Kids

Vault

More

STAR WARS **BOOKS TIMELINE**

WE TAKE A LOOK AT THE THRILLING NEW STAR WARS NOVELS DUE TO HIT THE SHELVES IN 2009.

March 2009

FATE OF THE JEDI:

BY AARON ALLSTON

This is the first in the nine-book Fate of the Jedi hardcover series. In the two years following the death of Darth Caedus (the former Jacen Solo), the new Chief of State, Daala, considers the Jedi Knights as rogue soldiers too dangerous and unstable to leave unfettered. She has sworn to bring the Order under government control-or disband it entirely.

In order to discover what went wrong with Jacen. Luke and Ben Skywalker attempt to follow Jacen's previous journey in the hope of discovering how the galaxy's other Force-using groups influenced him to accept and use dark side powers.

May 2009

THE CLONE WARS:

BY KAREN TRAVISS

Anakin needs a break and sends Ahsoka, along with Captain Rex and other members of the 501st, on a routine three-day shakedown cruise aboard Captain Gilad Pellaeon's newly refitted assault ship. As it turns out, there's nothing at all routine about the cruise and they find themselves in the middle of a hostage situation.

June 2009

FATE OF THE JEDI: OMEN

BY CHRISTIE GOLDEN

The second book in the Fate of the ledi series finds Luke and Ben in serious trouble. Well, pretty much everyone is in serious trouble. Andthen there's that scene at the livestock exchange....

September 2009

FATE OF THE JEDI: ABYSS

BY TROY DENNING

In this third book, more trouble ensues as well as some good times, and Ben Skywalker enjoys a dinner date.

October 2009

COMMANDO: 501st

BY KAREN TRAVISS

Great title, huh? Clone troopers become stormtroopers in this gripping aftermath of Order 66. Follow Darman, Niner, and other favorites as they find their way in this new Empire gone mad.

NOVEMBER 2009 DEATHTROOPERS

BY JOE SCHREIBER

Taking place just before the events of A New Hope, this is the first Star Wars venture into the horror genre and should be read under the covers! December 2009

BY DREW KARPYSHYN The third Darth Bane novel by Drew Karpyshyn, This book continues the story of Darth Bane and his apprentice Zannah.

CHECK OUT INSIDER'S TOP 10 THREEPIO & ARTOO ADVENTURES ON PAGE 67







JEDI NOT SO "FAR, FAR AWAY" AFTER ALL!

n fall 2009, aspiring Jedi (and Sith!) will be able to "use the Force" when Uncle Milton Industries debuts an amazing new product called The Force Trainer.

"It's been a fantasy everyone has had, using the Force," says Howard Roffman, president of Lucas Licensing.

The Force Trainer allows you to control a jedi Iraining Remote with your mind, by tapping into cutting-edge brainwave technology used, until now, mainly in clinics and hospitals for medical diagnosis and tests. The deeper your concentration and mental focus, the greater influence you have on the training sphere. Propelled by a stream of air, it moves up or down a clear cylinder based on your focus of attention. Users can progress from Padawan to Jedi Master through 15 levels of training. Familiar Star Wars character voices and sound effects guide and encourage you.

NEW TECHNOLOGY!

"The Force Trainer is the perfect marriage of new technology to the Star Wars universe," says Frank Adler, executive vice president of Lincle Milton. "It brings a long-desired part of the films to life in a way that is both fun and educational."

Inspired by the hugely successful museum tour—Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination—Uncle Milton also has translated the "science" of the saga into a full line of toys for all ages, including a multi-functional optical command unit. Darth Vader's robotic arm, and habitats that simulate life on the planets Naboo and Dagobah. There will also be a jedi telescope and a jedi projector, along with a Mustafar build-it-yourself volcano kit.

Designed to entertain and educate, these toys teach the scientific workings and applications behind robotics, optics, visual projection, and much more.

'Uncle Milton has an exceptional history of translating science and nature into engaging products that kids want to play with," says Adler, "By combining developments in technology and product innovation with the blockbuster Star Wars brand, we have created unique toys that appeal to kids, parents, and even collectors."

The Force Trainer uses so-called dry EEG sensor technology so that the headset can read and interpret your brainwaves. As you master the use of the Force through the 15 training levels, increasingly challenging sequences are aided by training cues and instruction from Jedi Master Yoda. Additional Star Wars sound effects confirm accomplishments and provide encouragement throughout the training Advancement and current level of training is displayed on the Training Tower control panel. The Force Trainer is for ages 8 and higher, and will have a suggested retail price of \$129.99.



♣ APRIL 2009 ♣

1/15) Star Wars insider. Train Magazines, MAIs Santa Morrou Blod., http://doi.org/10.1007/j.com/10.1007/j.uSA.

144 Southmark Street, London, SE 1 (U.P., U.K.

ECHODEWA

Januffson Williams
Matt McAdater
Farron Nego
Hart Bed
January Sarah Herman



LUCASFILM

Cares Received
Fragin Parison
State Sameweek
Troy Agers
Mery Franklin

QOSTRIBUTORS.

erand de la compania La compania de la co

SPECIAL PROPES

un y te at like the end of the Whats



FIRM HASASISES - Neglet Beyon

 Agg king P liggth Bulli Hardy 7 L Gr Browne · · · · Harries Scientismere - Жотону Вездил Lilly Fornigen Support Large See Sales William Phonon Market Gill Polyadesh Frank man and Higher Charden ALSO WYDERN No. 1 No Wo Parker 100 mile A - 11 A David Quitaria

Lames (Wilmen)
From J Report
Unity Late
Unity Late
Unity Late
Large (Index)
Vision Sterling
Nigh Landing

US 019 F R18U 000M

Tatas Publication Services, Inc. John Stemansteinman, 681 (5) 1 1688

School of tested to be, Tanker Consultation Company

Overnord Come, Oralinburges Fusion groups III - 65 to 305 x 000 A groups (see, cystem) 60 to 3 d 165 to 3 d 165 groups (see, cystem) 60 to 3 d 165 to 3 d

. **М. Велтийлик**

Corney (1999) seatiffs Subservences USA (ICS 1990) For UK subservences queries desires cornect seatragilitystecon de sea

to a serve the second of the second

adinfo@titanemail.com

SYAN WORS WEIDER (USWORD) (UV 484)

Agent 2009 [1,04 m] O(1,04 m) (1,05 m)

Padashine a IPs Agent Nel Francia sum Agent in refere foreman Penaga Pari Agent is an an apparate materia (Fern

оодныцети

Contraction Congress of the Book Books (Contraction Contraction Co





THE STAR WARS SAGA IS
PACKED WITH DOUBLE ACTS
SUCH AS LUKE AND LEIA,
HAN AND CHEWIE, AND R2-D2
AND C-3PO. NOW YOU CAN
ADD A NEW DUO TO THE LIST
AS ANAKIN AND AHSOKA,
AKA MATT LANTER AND
ASHLEY ECKSTEIN, TAKE
ON THE SEPARATISTS!

WORDS: JONATHAN WILKINS

PURSUATU NUSUAF



CLÖNE WARS



How did you get you end up appearing in *The Clone Wars?*Matt Lanter: It was a normal everyday audition for a job. My voiceover agent told me there was a casting call for a *Star Wars* animated series and they said they couldn't tell me anything about it. Being a new *Star Wars* production, there was a lot of secrecy, so I went in not really knowing what to expect. I was supposedly reading for a character called Deak Starkiller, which I researched to try to get some information. I couldn't find anything, so I was kind of in the dark as to what I should do.

Dave Filoni [the director] and Catherine Winder [the producer] told me to play a combination of Han Solo and Luke Skywalker, and I had a small script to read. A couple of days later I got the call to say that I got the job, and also that I was Anakin Skywalker—one of the leads of the series. So it was quite a twist!

Ashley Eckstein: I was actually called in to audition for the role of Padmé. I showed up, but I didn't have high hopes because I'd worked really hard to sound like Natalie Portman and wasn't quite mastering her voice. I told my agent that I didn't think I was quite right for the role, but she advised me to go anyway.

As I said the first line, they cut me off and told me that I sounded too young. So it was exactly what I had thought. However, they said that they wanted me to audition for a different role. They didn't tell me who it was, but they did say it was a new character. They wanted

me to toy around with some different accents and put my own spin on it. Everything I was coming up with wasn't what they wanted and I was getting really frustrated, but somehow I managed to get a call-back. I went to a dialect coach and I practiced the accent that they wanted me to come back with. But it still wasn't what they wanted! Usually I am pretty composed in auditions—if I'm struggling or if I mess up I try not to let it show—but for some reason I let my guard down and my frustration showed through. They saw that I was really disappointed in myself and I was trying to be perfect for them. I walked out of the call-back and told my husband that I didn't think that I had been able to give them the accent they wanted.

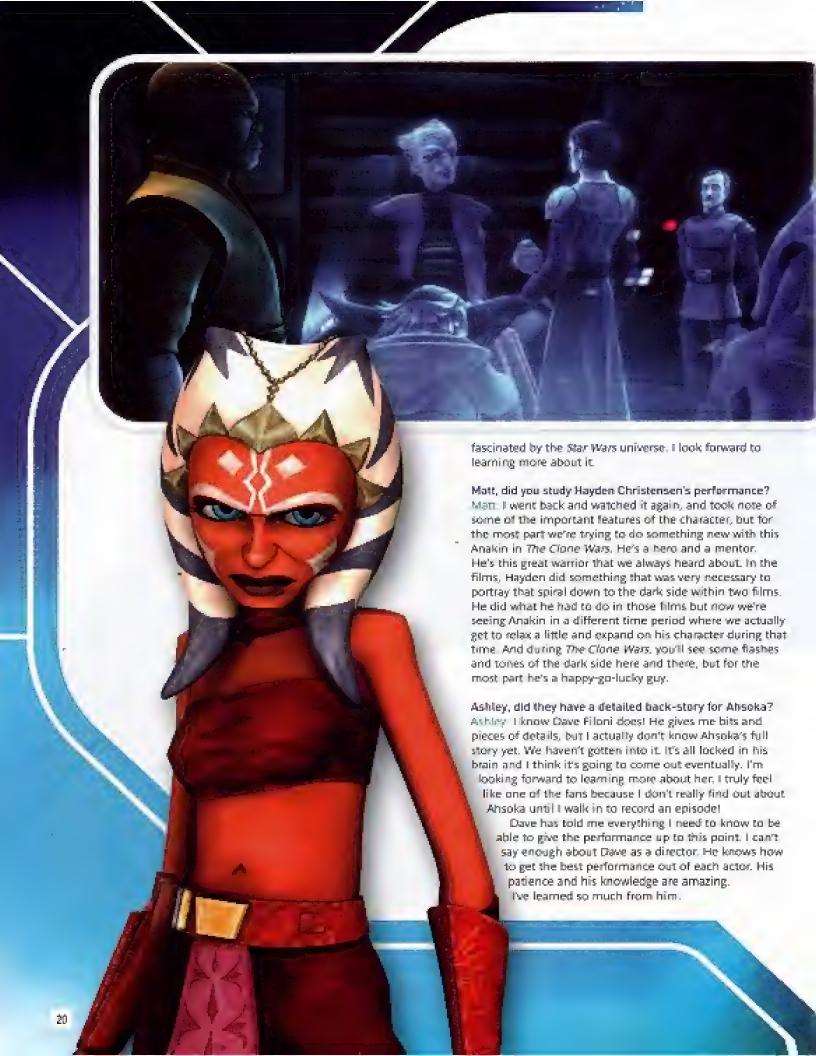
Somehow, though, I got the part! I still didn't know what part I was going to be playing.

I showed up to the first recording session and they told me who the character was and then said. "We don't want you to use an accent, we want you to use your own voice, because your expressions, body movements, and the inflection of your real voice is what we had pictured for the character of Ahsokal Let's toy around with it and bring some of your natural attitude to the









CLONE WARS





Dave Filoni told us that a lot of Ahsoka was based on Carrie Fisher's mannerisms. Were you aware of that? Ashley Definitely. When we were recording the sessions for each episode, Dave Filoni gave me notes and thoughts on how he wanted me to read a certain line with a certain level of spunk to try and make it reminiscent of what Carrie Fisher did. We wanted to bring some of the spint of Princess Leia into Ahsoka We liked how funny and independent she was.

You've got an obvious rapport with Matt. Is this something you've consciously worked on? Ashley. In the voiceover world you don't always have the luxury of recording together. Something Dave stressed from the beginning with us is that he really wanted to get the cast together when we record episodes. I'm so glad, because I don't think we would have formed the chemistry that we have if we hadn't been in the same room standing next to each other saying these lines.

Matt and I are definitely like brother and sister—we give each other a hard time! When we were up at Slowalker Ranch doing the press junket, we got to test

Wors: The Clone Wors Lightsaber Duels. Of course he beat me! I've challenged him to a rematch at some point and my husband [baseball star David Eckstein], who's very good at videogames, is going to train me. Matt better watch out, because I'm going to come back with a vengeance!

out the Nintendo game, Stay

Baseball players definitely have similarities to Jedil Kids really look up to them, and with the baseball bat they kind of look a little like Jedil

And you both get to be on a trading card!
Ashley: That was a little weird to see! I never in a million years thought I would have my own Topps card!

How does the recording process work?

Matt The recording process is a lot of fun for all of usl We usually try to record an episode with other actors. We get the script a day or two before and we'll record for about four hours at a time, to get a 22 minute episode. It's easier and better to play off each other, especially, for example, scenes with Obi-Wan and Anakin and also Ahsoka and Anakin. We have that banter back and forth that's fun and witty, much like Han Solo and Princess Leia had. It's nice to have James Arnold Taylor [Obi-Wan] and Ashley Eckstein in the booth next to me so I can bounce that energy back and forth. Dave Filoni is always there, and before we record the episode he explains what's going on in this installment and how things might look. It's a lot of fun. We get in there and we laugh a lot and we finally get the work done!

By this point, we're well into the second season so I think all of us know our characters pretty well. I'll go over it and I have my interpretation of how it should be done and Dave will say if he was thinking of something different and let us know how it should be. For the most part he is pretty hands off, and lets us do our thing. He's a really cool director and fun to work with.



CLONE WARS

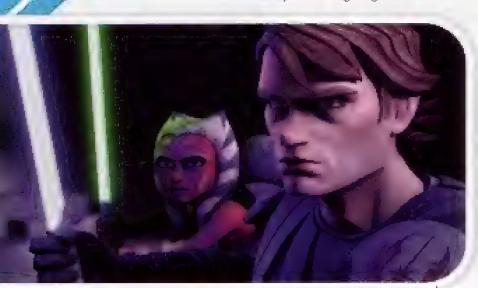


Given how far in advance you record the show, is there a lot of secrecy?

Ashley: We don't get to keep any of our scripts. We get them 24 hours before we record an episode and then we have to turn them in before we leave the studio. It really is tough because I don't remember some of the stories in terms of details—we recorded them around three years ago! It's kind of tough If a fan asks me what my favorite line is, because I don't have the luxury of going back to the script. When they watch it on Friday nights on Cartoon Network that's the first time I'm watching it too!

When you see the completed episodes are they always as you imagined?

Matt: I can't think of a specific example, but there have been several times when I've seen it and thought, "Oh! That's what he was talking about, that's what it looks like!" It's so hard, especially in the Star Wars world, because anything goes. You can be on any number of planets that look like any number of environments. Sometimes it's hard to imagine, so when you see it, it's a special treat. I'm a huge fan of the show and I watch it every Friday with everybody else! Ashley: I'll take it back to the first experience, which was the movie. I really had no idea about Ahsoka's fighting style or lightsaber techniques. I had no idea how tough she was until I actually saw her fighting Ventress. There





was a deleted scene from the movie, when Ahsoka fights a giant rancor. I had no idea what that would look like. Of course, Dave explained it's this giant monster, but I had no idea how big this monster was and how little Ahsoka was, and how agile. I didn't realize how cat-like she was, and how good she was with her body movements. She's like a little gymnast! She can go anywhere and flip anywhere. I had pictured it in my mind, but the animation blew me away. I was really excited to see how tough she was, and that continues with the episodes in season one. In Cloak of Darkness, Luminara and Ahsoka fight Ventress and I had no idea what she could do with a lightsaber! Every session we go in to, I tell Dave, "Thank you for making

How far in advance do you actually record it?
Matt: Right now [December 2008] we're about halfway into the second season. We were working on the project around two years before it was even announced. We had to be real secretive about it. I was anxious to get it off my chest, because I couldn't even tell my own mom what I was working on, so it was nice to be able to talk about it!

Do you have any favorite scenes as Anakin?

me so tough! This is awesome!"

Matt: I really love the witty banter. It's really fun to get in there and bounce that sarcasm back and forth with Ashley or James. It's all about getting that timing and that fun tone—that's what I like the best.

Do you have a favorite episode from season one?

Ashley: There's one episode that hasn't aired yet, in which Ahsoka learns a huge lesson.

She's given a bit of independence, and she learns from it. She learns what it's like to make a mistake and what it's like to pick up the pieces and fix your mistake. It is a huge growing experience for her. I ask fans to be patient with her and to watch her grow. Ahsoka is very young, very raw, and very green in the movie and at the start of the series. That's the fun part because we get to

watch Ahsoka grow throughout *The Clone Wars* series. In my opinion, she's definitely moving in the direction that I think fans want her to go in.

Lalso really like Cloak of Darkness which was all female Jedi power! With Luminara Unduli and Asajj Ventress, it just showed that the women could kick some buff, too. I don't get to see the action when we record because we record our voices before they do the animation. I'm always surprised with how tough these female characters look because all I can do is erwision it in my head when I'm recording. Everything Dave and the animators do blows my mind! The episodes are even bigger and grander than I imagined.

Is it pleasing to be a character who young girts can relate to?

Ashley: Yes. I was a huge tomboy growing up. While I loved dressing up for the movie premiere, I have this inner tomboy who likes to get down and dirty on the baseball field! When my husband has batting practice you'll see me in the outfield throwing baseballs for him.

I feel that I was like Ahsoka when I was younger. I was the only girl on the baseball toam, I had an older brother and I wanted to hang out with the boys! I wore my hat backwards, I wouldn't brush my hair, and I wore a Karate Kid outfit for my school pictures. I'm glad that







young girls today who watch Ahsoka realize they can hang with the boys. I wish I had a character to look to like Ahsoka when I was young, because she proves girls can do the same things that boys can. I think she shows that if you're mentally and physically fit, there's nothing you can't do. Girls can be just as tough as the boys!

What it's like being an action figure?

Ashley. It's like the Topps card. Never in a million years did I think I was going to have an action figure! It's so cool. I wasn't into Barbie growing up—I played G.I. Joe and He-Man with my brother, so to be able to have an action figure for a character that I play is a dream come true! I couldn't find my action figure anywhere. I went around to all the stores looking for it! As actors, we're not given our toys. Finally I was at a fan convention in Dallas, and I bought it from one of the vendors there, because I wanted it so bad!

I've got nieces and nephews who enjoy playing with their Ahsoka action figures!

So I guess you are their favorite aunt!

Ashley: They definitely ask me to say certain lines from the show. I think they just find it all too strange because they hear me talk every day and mostly my voice is Absoka's voice, I don't really change it that much. When I talk to my nephew and say, "Hey Skyguy, how you doin'?" he sometimes does a double-take like, "That's a little strange." It's definitely a family bonding experience and I'm just enjoying every bit of it.

And you're back for season two....

Ashley: Yes! The outlook for Ahsoka is locked away in Dave's and George Lucas' minds. If they know what her future is, they haven't told me yet. I read each script on the edge of my seat because if I see Ahsoka's in danger, I don't know what her future holds. I'm really looking forward to finding that out one day!

Where would you like to see Anakin go as The Clone Wars progresses?

Matt. I think we all know where he eventually goes! He's like the Titanic—we know he's a sinking ship. I don't know what the timeline is as far as how much we're going to see him travel to the dark side. We haven't talked about the span. I know we're seeing flashes of the dark side here and there, and we're going to discover a little more why he has a huge fall at some point in the series, but I don't know when.



ヘミ コマロ ロマト コドレト WORDS: JONATHAN WILKINS

DAVID PROWSE'S PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE AS THE SINISTER DARTH VADER FIRST CAPTURED AUDIENCES ABOARD IMAGINATIONS BACK IN 1977 WHEN HE STRODE AS INCE!

THE Tantive IV. HE HASN'T LOOKED BACK SINCE!

Star Wars Insider: How did you get the rote of such an iconic screen villain? David Prowse: I met George Lucas at the 20th Century Fox offices in Soho Square, London. He had seen me in A Clockwork Orange, in which I had appeared some years before. He said, "I'm doing this film called Star Wars, which is a big space adventure, and I'd like to offer you one of two parts. The first one's a character called Chewbacca. He's like a hairy gorilla who goes through the movie on the side of the goodies." I said, "No, you can keep that one, George, what's the other one?" He said, "The other one's the big villain of the film, a character called Darth Vader." I said, "Don't say any more George, I'll play the villain, thank you!"

Are you still happy to have chosen the bad guy?

I think so. Peter Mayhew did a fantastic job with Chewbacca. I certainly don't think I could have played Chewbacca as well as Peter did.

Can you recall the first time you saw the Vader costume? What was it like to wear? When I went to see George Lucas for the very first time. He took me into this long room with all these conceptual drawings of the characters and some of the scenes. He showed me an early sketch of Vader and it looked almost like a human fly. It was very would looking

Later I met with the costume designer, John Mollo, and got measured for the suit. I didn't see the finished costume until Larrived on set. When they put the helmet and mask on, George asked me to turn my head from left to right. I did but the mask stayed facing forward! They took it off and intended to reduce its size. George said, "No, the mask and helmet fit perfectly with your shape and size: we'll pad the mask out with foam rubber." And this is what they did. It was really tight

The suit was comprised of around 15 different pieces. It was all made from quitted leather and fiberglass and had two capes. We filmed during the very hot summer of 1976, so I used to sweat a great deal inside. The heat used to rise up and go into the mask, misting up the eyepieces so I couldn't see! It was OK for about two minutes, but then I had to stup and wipe the eyepleces because I couldn't see where I was going!

Did you have any mishaps as a result? I didn't walk into the set, but I did knock Alec Guinness over by accident. We were shooting the fight scene in which Vader kills Obi-Wan Kenobi. We were taught the fight by the stunt arranger, Peter Diamond. He used to enach me in a sports arena in North London. When the film started, we'd practice with our sticks between shots. All the practicing we did was in our everyday clothes, or i'd practice with the suit, but without the cape and the helmet. When we filmed the actual fight scene we went through the motions and that was OK. As soon as I started doing something strenuous I sweated, which misted up the eyepleces.

I was supposed to push him away and he would go a couple of paces back and knock into the corridor wall. As soon as I put the mask and helmet on, I couldn't see what I was doing. Unfortunately, I pushed him down the comidor, and he fell over. He dusted himself off and carried on -a true professional.

How long did it take to put the suit on? I had a dresser, we used to call "Mother." and he was ever so helpful in getting me













prepared for shooting. We had a dressing room near the set and it would take about 20 minutes to get into the suit. I used to get makeup put on around my eyes because otherwise you could see my eyes flickering behind the mask. They started with opaque lenses, then they used yellow lenses, and eventually dark amber

I could hardly see where I was going. Laiso had black makeup around my mouth because my lips could be seen through the mask. I used to look like a big panda!

Was the costume heavy?

It weighed about 40 pounds, but I only wore it for short periods. The mask and helmet were the heaviest. I could sit around all day in the suit with no grablem.

When you put the suit on, did people's attitudes change fowards you? No. I don't think so. Everybody was very impressed because, with the helmet and the mask on, I was about seven feet tall! One of the things I did at the beginning was establish the walk, and then everything else fell into place. I decided how I wanted to make everybody subservient apart from Grand Moff Tarkin, who was Vader's boss. So it got to the point where I adopted a brisk, purposeful stride, meaning virtually everybody had to trot quickly alongside me to catch up!

How quickly after the first film was released did you realize that Vader was such an icon? I did a movie for Russ Meyer called Black Snake, and we became friends. Within three days of Star Wars coming out, I received

a cable from him, it said, "Congratulations, Davel You're in the biggest movie of all time. By the way did you know they've over-dubbed your voice?" That was the first time I knew that I was part of an incredible Hondichunger abovermentungen.

What was Beorge Lucas like to work with? If you give George Lucas what he's looking for then he doesn't interfere. On the very first shot we did, I was walking up a corridor. I was trying to establish Darth Vader's walk and they had a camera track going all the way up the corridor. I strode up the comdor and got to the end. George came over and said, "Sorry David, you've got to slow down. We can't keep up with you!" That was one of the few things he ever said to me about the role and what I was doing.

In The Empire Strikes Back we see Vader unmasked from the back, was that you? Yes, it was me. I was wearing a specially fitted bald-cap that Stuart Freedom's team made for me.

Is it true that you didn't know about the big revelation at the climax of The Empire Strikes Back?

I didn't know I was Luke's father until I went to the premiere. I thought, "Blimey! That's news!" When we were filming on the gantry scene there was a huge airplane propeller creating all the wind. It was making so much noise that I couldn't hear a word that Mark Hamilt was saying. All my dialogue. was with gestures, so as soon as he had seen me stop gesturing then he would speak and I could see his lips moving



As soon as he stopped I would come back in with my next line, and that's how we did the scene. I had no idea whatsoever what was actually being said!

Did you enjoy working with Mark?
I did. Mark is a really nice guy. We see
each other on the circuit occasionally. He
came over for Celebration Europe, and the
press made a big thing out of it: father and
son reunited [see photo, far right]!

Do you have fun attending fan conventions? I think they're absolutely phenomenal. I sit down, and my queue for autographs is five hours long and the lines go all around the auditorium and out into the street. And you think, people are lining up for five hours just to get my signature, which amazes me.







LUNCH WITH A JEDI!

David Prowse: "When I got the part of Darth Vader, I was invited to have lunch with Alec Guinness, George Lucas, and Gary Kurtz. We had this lunch and it was obviously to introduce the two of us because I was going to kill him off in the movie. We went into the studio and had a chat with the stunt arrangers. When I saw that Alec Guinness had published his memoirs, I had a look to see if I got an honorable mention. There was one line that said, 'Had lunch today with David Prowse, the actor who is going to play Darth Vader—I fear he is not an actor!"



When was the last time you wore the Darth Vader costume?

It was around 1997. I appeared in Rebel Assault II. They sent the suit to England with a security guard! I noticed my name tag was still in the suit. They sent James Earl Jones' vocal performance over as well so I had to learn all the dialogue and act according to the pre-recorded dialogue, which was quite strange because I'd nover done that before.

Have you ever met James Earl Jones? Never, Someone ought to make a good TV interview of the two of us meeting—the voice meets the body. I'd love to meet him.

Do you have a particular tavorite piece of Vader merchandise?

I've just recently gotten a helmet, mask, and breast plate, (supposedly) from an original mold. It's a beautiful piece. And I think Gentle Giant produces some really nice sculptures of Vader.

Do you have a message for Vader lans? They've been absolutely lantastic! When you consider that something i did all those years ago has obviously captured the imaginations of all these different people. I just feel very privileged to have been the actor that portrayed Darth Vader and thank all the fans for their unwavering support and kindness over the years.

•



DATABANK

The Royal Guard are soldiers hand-packed from the best of the best starmtroopers. Each recruit is selected according to strungth; intelligence, and loyalty, as well as whether they have any latent Force sensitivity. The names of these deadly warriors are never mentioned by anyone outside their own ranks. Guards are trained in the art of fencing and dighting during a visit land training programs which includes Echani hand-to-hand compat Casualties are high; a class of 42 might see only two reach full Guardsman status-with other candidates killed during the brutal training process. During their final test, trainees fight each other to the death before Palpatine himself. During training, the Guards are educated to believe that Palpatine, and his every order, are beyond fault or question:

PROFILE

HOMEWORLD VARIOUS SPECIES VARIOUS GENDER MALE HEIGHT, 1.83 METERS WEAPON FORCE PIKE VEHICLE TIEAN STARFIGHTER AFFICIATION EMPIRE

SKILLS

An immovable force, sworn to protect by any means necessary, a Royal Guard is part of an elite lighting squad that will win by any means Strong and determined, the guard's single mindedness and extensive training ensures that he is not easily bested in combat While no match for a jedi, the guards-chosen from non-close military units—are form dable warriors utilizing force pikes that, when set to maximum strength, can teat steel buildheads and easily full organic lifeforms.

STRENGTH	85
SPEED	80
POWER	30
LEADERSHIP	20
MOBILITY	80
LOYALTY	100
SPECIAL ABILITY	80
BONUS SKILL	90

IMPERIAL ROYAL GUARD

he Emperor's Royal Guards, also called imperial Royal Guards, are unswervingly loyal to Emperor Palpatine, while the MagnaGuards' affiliation lies with the Separatist commander, General Grievous. Underneath their distinctive scarlet robes, the Royal Guards are clad in working ceremonial armor and each brandishes

a deadly force pike. Trained in various forms of combat, they are the last line of defense should an enemy get too close to the Empeior.

The MagnaGuards serve as the personal bodyguards of the feared Kaleesh cyborg. General Grievous. Almost unstoppable, these droid warriers carry electrostaffs fashioned from lightsaber-resistant phnik



DATABANK The IG-100 MagnaGuard, otherwise known

as a Self-Motivating Heuristically Programmed Combat Dioid, is an advanced battledroid created by Holowan Mechanicals. They are designed to work as General Grievous' personal podyguards, although they occasionally serve Count Dooku. They were commissioned after the Intergalactic Banking Clan refused to hire Grievous Kaleesh elite when they brought aboard the cyborg warrior as an enforcer. He demanded a battalion of "more intelligent battle droids" to serve him. The MagnaGuards First fought during the Battle of Parein II 4. One of droids killed the

droids are more than a match for the Jedic PROFILE

Jedi Sannen with its powerful electrostaff. This provided evidence to all who saw that these

MANUFACTURER, HOLOWAN MECHANICALS SPECIES DROID

GENDER: MASCULINE PROGRAMMING

HEIGHT 1.95 METERS

WEAPONS ELECTROSTAFF.

BULLDOG ROCKET LAUNCHER, NEURO POISON. INTEGRATED MISSILE LAUNCHER VEHICLE MAGNAGUARD STARFIGHTER AFFILIATION CLS

SKILLS

Programmed to protect General Grievous, the MagnaGuard is quite literally a killing machine. Skilled in a variety of compat techniques, this droid cannot be stopped, even when an enemy lands what might seem to be a killing blow. Personally trained by General Grievous in the seven classic styles of lightsaber combat, the droids are left in disrepair by their master, who believes their battle-scarred bodies make them look even more intimidating to their foes.

STRENGTH 90 90 SPEED 10 **POWER** 30 **LEADERSHIP** 90 MOBILITY LOYALTY 100 SPECIAL ABILITY 70 **BONUS SKILL** 70

MAGNAGUARD

metal, and wear cloaks similar to those worn by Grievous' old lavoshra elite during his time as a warlord.

Various MagnaGuard models were created to specialize in different weapons such as grenades, Bulldog rifles, RD-4 grenade launchers, and anti-vehicle missile launchers. They use other devices and equipment such as a built-in towcables, personal cloaking devices, or magnetized limbs.

These droids are remarkably resilient, and capable of fighting even when decapitated. With two warriors trained to be absolutely loyal, this looks to be the deadliest battle yet. So who will win? Man or machine?

THE AUTHOR OF THE FORCE IN THE FLESH, SHANE TURGEON DOESN'T JUST LIVE STAR WARS, HE WEARS IT PERMANENTLY!

シロ10 ロド THEFLES WORDS: JONATHAN WILKINS

Star Wars Insider: What was your first Star Wars tattoo and how did you reach the decision to get it done? Shane Turgeon: My first Star Wars tattoo was actually my first ever tattoo. It's the abbreviation for straightedge (sXe)—a punk rock philosophy based on abstaining from alcohol, drugs, and smoking-and it was done in the Aurebesh font

I came up with the idea shortly after the first Star Wars Monopoly game, which came out with the Aurebesh translation written on the back of the instructions. I wanted my first tattoo to be representative of things I'd long held important and having been straightedge and a collector of Star Wars memorabilia for many years previously, these seemed a perfect fit without being overwhelmingly obvious that it was either an sXe or Star Wars tattoo.

Can you talk me through all your Star Wars tattoos? Why did you choose certain characters? As we were doing my first piece, the artist. Steve Hayes, commented on how much he wanted to do a Yoda tattoo. I guess I wasn't feeling too bad during the session because I agreed to let him do a Yoda on my calf. I brought in a picture of a famous Tsuneo Sanda Yoda painting and Steve translated it flawlessly into a tatteo. Since then, Guy and Hannah. Altenison, Craig Driscoll, and Justin Kovesy have contributed some of my favorite characters and scenes from The Empire Strikes Back to that leg. turning it into a full blown tribute to the film. Most recently I had Miles Kanne tattoo a vintage Power Droid action figure on the top of my foot with a banner accompanying him with "Old Skool" as the text! Hey, if you're going to get the tops of your feet tattooed, you might as well get something you can giggle at, right?

"I CAME UP WITH THE IDEA AFTER THE FIRST STAR WARS MONOPOLY GAME CAME OUT WITH AUREBESH INSTRUCTIONS."

What does your family think of the tattoos?

My wife is covered in tattoos as well, so there are no concerns there, especially considering she has some subtle Star Wars themes running through a couple of pieces. My parents, on the other hand, are not really into tattoos, so they're not overly keen.

What has the reaction of cast members been to your tattoos? Have any of the actors depicted seen them?

Anytime I've been with an actor and a fan shows them a tattoo of their character, they're really quite impressed. I haven't met any cast members who were turned off by it. Several actors have bought copies of the book.

How has fan reaction been? There are so many amazing Star Wars tattoos in the community that it would be unfair to ask what fan reaction has been to my tattoos. Considering the fact that my site www.tattoosandtoys.com has nearly 1,000 submissions, over 200,000 visitors, that the Star Wars tattoo events I've organized for Celebration III. Celebration IV and Celebration Europe are some of the best attended, and that I've been able to publish a book on the subject shows considerable support. Thousands of fans have Star Wars tattoos now and it's a part of fandom.

How have the tattoos gone down within the tattoo industry?

The tattoo industry has always been incredibly supportive of all of our projects and some of the biggest names in the industry have created some of the hinest works of Star Wars art out there—on skin and canvas.

So many amazing tattooers are Star Wars fans. They have been more than willing to get behind our projects, such as our licensed Celebration exclusive "I Love My Star Wars Tattoo" shirts (designed by Hannah Aitchison from the TV series LA Ink). They are also collaborating with us on an upcorning line of Star Wars Shop exclusive Star Wars tattoo clothing. Artists have created Star Wars themed tattoo machines, flash sheets, business cards, and studio





names, and often incorporate Star Wars memorabilia into their day-today equipment. I've seen everything from Darth Vader spray bottles to R2-D2 power supplies and Star Wars action figure heads being used as screw caps on machines.

What prompted you to write The Force in the Flesh? I've always been a fan of big, visual books dedicated to one particular subject. After I had been running tattoosandteys.com for a number of years, seeing just how big a phenomenon Star Wars tattoos were becoming, and meeting so many people with incredible stories, I thought it would be the perfect subject matter for a book. My good friend John Kellerman, author of Vintage Star Wars Action Figures: A Guide for Collectors had just self-published his incredible book and his guidance really helped me through the process of self-publishing my book.

What has the response been? The response has been incredible. Everyone who sees the book has nothing but glowing reviews. It has sold incredibly well for an entirely self-published, self-marketed, and self-distributed endeavor.

Can you describe the process of getting a tattoo? How long does it take to go from deciding what you want to the finished tattoo? It depends. Some people want their idea set to skin right away while others prefer to wait and think it out. Most reputable artists have a waiting period-anywhere from a couple of weeks to over a year-so it can take a while from your first meeting with an artist. After that, the time required really depends on the size of the piece. A small Imperial or Rebel logo in one color shouldn't take more than an hour, mid-sized character tattoos can take five to 15 hours, and full sleeves and backpieces can take. anywhere from 25 to 40 hours.

What's the most surprising Star Wars taltoo you've seen? That's a loaded question! I've seen several that feature Star Wars characters engaging in, ahem, questionable behavior and I've seen a lot of others that incorporate



different themes that wouldn't normally be associated with Star Wars (such as a Yoda Tiki). Certain placements often elicit a surprising reaction as well-tattooing a rancor on the side of your head is about as bold a statement as you can get!

What practical advice would you give to lans who might want to follow in your footsteps and get a Star Wars tattoo? A lot of the advice that is standard for getting non-Star Wars tattoos really applies to this subject as well. Find a technically proficient artist working in a clean, reputable shop. Talk to that artist and explain your ideas. If you're not comfortable

with the person, move on to another shop and artist. Try to come up with an original idea that will result in a unique, custom piece, and do not pick any flash designs off the wall. Think long and hard about your idea before committing to it. Try to find artists who are Star Wars fans themselves as they will understand the subject matter and put more heart into a custom piece for you.

Do you want more tattoos or are you done now? I'm debating on starting a large scale Star Wars piece on my ribs, but I may defer to another idea. I'm not quite sure yet. I just finished my sleeves so I'll be taking a break for a while.

How much has the hobby cost you? Well, I shudder to do the actual math, but I have about 120 hours and the average rate is about \$150 an hour.

Do you have a favorite? I have several favorite Star Wars tattoos. There are so many great, unique, and vibrant pieces out there that it's hard to just choose one.

Do you have any you regrets or things you would perhaps do differently? If you put a lot of thought into your tattoos, you shouldn't have any regrets. Don't get a tattoo because it's trendy and be sure you're getting something you're going to be happy with for the rest of your life. So no, I have no regrets! W

Signed copies of the book are avaliable from www.theforceintheflesh.com



Above model Shane Henderson, within Jan Flower.



Above model: Liz Martin, artist: Adam Hays



A SKILLED EDITOR WITH AN IMPRESSIVE AND HIGHLY DIVERSE LIST OF CREDITS TO HIS NAME, INCLUDING CSI: MIAMI AND LOONEY TUNES: BACK IN ACTION, JASON TUCKER FOUND HIMSELF WORKING ON THE PROJECT OF A LIFETIME WHEN HE WAS HIRED TO PIECE TOGETHER THE CLONE WARS.



ト川ス 氏支バイミロナ

WORDS: JONATHAN WILKINS



one moming in LA, it went very well, and here I am!

Do you think you need to be a Star Wars fan to work on the show?

It definitely helps to know certain aspects about Star Wars. As an editor, it's very important to know its pacing and how the distinctive rhythm of Star Wars works.

Editing has been a very important part of telling a Star Wars story on screen. Is that something you have tried to recapture? I would say that's always on my mind in each show. On certain shows I like to capture the mythm more of what you see in The Empire Strikes Back. Other shows I go for more of a Return of the Jedi style, and, of course, I emulate the style of the original Star Wars. it's pretty much standard continuity editing and that to me is what we're going for.

> Dave Filoni mentioned he'd learned a lot working with George Lucas during the making of the show.

It's been a real learning experience for me as well. I would say for both Dave and me, the first three to five episodes that we worked on were a learning curve. The editing style of George Lucas definitely comes through now. We're off and running after having had that education.

Given George Lucas background as an editor, was it daunting taking on the title on the show?

I felt the weight of it potentially being daunting, but as we got into it, it was actually a very pleasurable experience to learn and to really get into the editing philosophy of what makes Star Wars. George was very amiable. He was very excited at the prospect of participating in the show and passing on his knowledge. I think he's a natural teacher.

Were you ever advised to make things faster and more intense"?

Yes, George said that a couple of times! I've learned from George how fast or slow a particular shot is relative to what's around it and I think that's a very important thing to know.

What do you think makes a good editor? Whenever you're editing you have to pay attention to details. You have to be the audience, because it's really the last chance to change parts of the story. You have to pay attention to that inner voice as you scan the image and watch the initial rough cut, and you need to be able to pay attention to those certain little voices that hit you which say, "I don't understand this, or I don't understand that." Acting on those voices is what makes a great editor. Sometimes you're thinking,



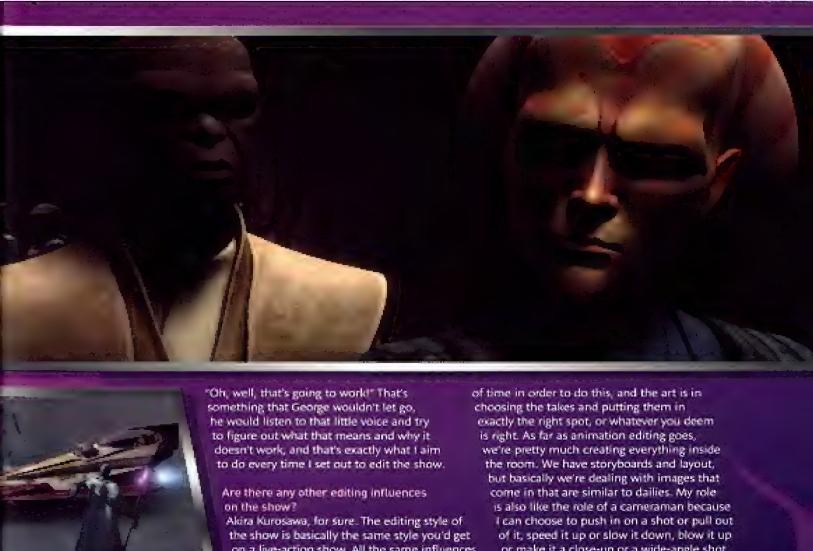
Star Wars Insider: How did you first come to hear about Star Wars: The Clone Wars project, and were you a fan?

Jason Tucker: Yes, I'm definitely a Star Wars fan, so I was very excited at the prospect of working on a Star Wars TV show.

I had a contact on a previous project I worked on called Looney Toons: Back in Action and he was helping producer Catherine Winder gather a crew for The Clone Wars, so he gave her my name.

Catherine and Dave Filoni interviewed me





on a live-action show. All the same influences that are in the Star Wars movies are in the show as well, I would say that World War II. movies are influences and Steven Spielberg's Saving Private Ryan is definitely in there. What we're doing is making these little features and miniature trilogies. The editing style obviously has to be slightly faster because we only have 22 minutes to tell the story, so we compress the rhythm and the pacing.

> What's the difference between editing live-action and animation?

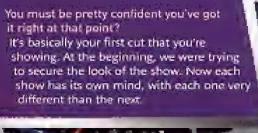
Editing is about cutting and joining images together, and with live-action you're handed a certain amount of what they call dailies and usually it's anywhere from a 4:1 to a 10:1 ratio per shot. As an editor, the art and the craft is putting all the stuff together for your initial cut before you show it to the director. In live action you get a certain amount

or make it a close-up or a wide-angle shot. Those decisions that serve the story, the continuity, or the emotion of the scene can be replicated for another pass, you could never do that in live action. So I would say that the art, or the craft, of editing has expanded a bit in the animation realm:

> Once you've got all the footage, how long does it take to edit an episode? I think at one point I was juggling six. episodes at once. On average I was working on about three. I would say it could take close to a month to six weeks to finish editing each episode. Six weeks in terms of just the story.

Do you work closely with each director? Yes. I work with the episodic directors for a while. Then I'll work with Dave for about a week, and then we'll show it to George.

"GEORGE WAS VERY AMIABLE. HE WAS VERY EXCITED AT THE PROSPECT OF PARTICIPATING IN THE SHOW AND PASSING ON HIS KNOWLEDGE." -JASON TUCKER





Were there any episodes that were particularly challenging to work on? Each one has its own challenges. I would say there hasn't been one in particular that was more challenging than another.

"IT DEFINITELY HELPS TO KNOW CERTAIN ASPECTS ABOUT STAR WARS. AS AN EDITOR, IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO KNOW IT FOR ITS PACING AND THE DISTINCTIVE WAY THE RHYTHM WORKS." -JASON TUCKER

is there a bis difference between how you go about editing un action based scene compared to a character-based scene?

The point of editing is to make the transitions as invisible as possible. Accomplishing that becomes a little more problematic during an action sequence because you have to really look at the pacing. That's where the craft is very similar. to live action, because you're dealing with similar issues in terms of telling the story. In a character scene you're fied to dialogue. Dialogue driven character pieces can be difficult as well because you're constantly asking yourself, "Should you go in for this shot or should you stay back? Should you stay back in your wider shots or should you move the camera?" These are questions that I work with the directors to answer. At this stage in the editing room, we're the audience, so we try to ask ourselves these questions. I consider myself an interpretive artist. I work with the director because I'm trying to fulfill their vision and get an idea of what they want. If a shot doesn't work for you, just ask for something else; but with live-action you'd have to get all your crew together, and it would take an entire day to remount the shot.

> Do you have a favorite episode? I would say the Lair of Grievous is a great episode. I would say all the Ryloth episodes at the close of the season are some of my favorites. Trespass and Rookies are also great. I can't really say there's an episode that I don't like! 4



MONTH BY MONTH 1

AND THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF Billion of Std William A Marie Happer of Millian House Eine B. B. Berton Com bir teprofice we level the Office: Bill tem Spiecker 1 performance for a limited in the saume about THE SHOPE SHOPE

FEERWARY INC. Living Colonia and er fregisterte per ist Particulation and the second Foreign Studies (et Pro-They build he had the Special Edition of

The America ritter es 🕳 🖈 ri refessed to Muse 100 THE SEC.



Die Dieben of me reacaped at Iddalo debuts on March III have bear purbant buck one



the surprise 10 4 65 75 0 the previous the or The The month Her care of

publication of June 1 ind kinghis Armor's Character founds book In a series almost it yourse maders. Miles es

APRIL Arming in III Fagiybii a rache spinice Combat New Live tand the natural manual to this



MAY: Dark trans Come. collects the out of print Star Mary newspaper strip by Russ Manning and begins in releasing them in colored comic book form



Anta a transport of the organization for the second the frequency and their deat not vake my and bit A CONTRACTOR OF A STATE

11 5, 1 10 11 of common the nin noor a HE HALL SHE With some ARREST LIBERT 11. 98



A.C. GHIRTH THE HUM Cine in the contract New to Author 1 House a rilegy—continues the every of Han and Chapterson CHALL HARRIST

HERREN BAY House continues in look of the transfer of the transfe the Star Wars galaxy well-main ald of Tales of the are and other subfrage.

DOTOBER OF BE month for violenzamen with fams able to choose between judi forjehic Dark Forces II. Shadows of the Long to the life.

a computer service of Monopoly Star Wars Edition, and the branches Star Maria Manda in oil Terries Kalsi

NOVEMBER.

The Uniontial Guide to Weapons and Technology. the third volume in Cel Rey's Expendial Guide sener. talon a look of everything from blasters on ganti eticks.

BESEMBER Bankin releases Takes fiscen the Emplie a short story collection to esisting of previously published



A LONG TIME AGO

JANUARY-MARCH, 1997 TIONS

ndustry observers considered it a huge gamble. Even with some snazzy digital additions, would anyone pay to see a 20 year old movie in theaters? On January 31, the world found out. When the movie in question is Star. Wars, the answer is an overwhelming. "Yes!" Fans lined up around the block for the Special Edition release of Star Wars:

SPECIAL EDITION

A New Hog

Speeds Shat First, the contract conaddition of a laser bolt fired from Greeda's weapon transformed Han's own shot from a sneaky kill to an act of self defense. The number of frames between shelp was later reduced for the 2004 DVD release



Episode IV A New Hope, ringing up a \$35.9 million U.S. weekend box office gross, the ninth-highest three-day take ever at the time. The Special Edition of The Empire Strikes Back landed on February 21, closely followed by Return of the Jedi on March 14.

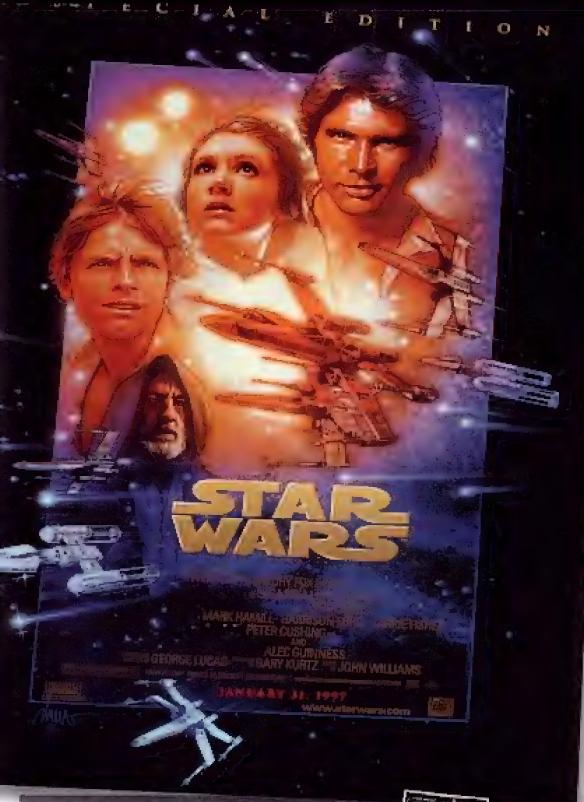
The Special Editions were both a way to re-engage Star Wars fans and to test the new CG techniques to be used in the upcoming prequel trilogy. Though purists objected to some of the tweaks (see sidebar), the Special Editions proved that the Force was still strong with the Star Wars franchisel 👜

The Empire Strikes Back Luke's Scream. The inclusion of an

apparent howl of terrer as Luke stepped off the Cloud City gantry struck same as a mismatch for a character supposedly resigned to his fate. The scream was removed for the 2004 OVO release.

Return of the Jedi

Music Shuffle. Two pieces of source music-the Jahba's palace tune "Lapti Nek" and the Ewok celebration chant sometimes called the "Yub Nub" song—were retired in favor of the bluesier "Jedi Rocks" and a new orchestral finale. Wesa Free!



Comet Hale-Bopp makes its closest approach to Earth.

MAY 2.

Tony Blair is elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

JULY 4:

NASA successfully lands the Pathtinder space probe on Mais, it carries the Sojourner rover, which goes on to analyze nearby rocks over the following three months.

AUGUST 31:

Princess Diana is killed in a car crash in Paris, triggering worldwide mourning.

JANUARY 31:

Final Fantasy VII is released in Japan, selling 2.3 million copies in its first three days.

MARCH 24:

At the 69th Academy Awards, the Best Picture prize goes to wartime deama The English Patient. JULY 2:

Men in Black, a scr-fi action comedy starring Will Smith and Tammy Lee Janes 25 alien-fighting government agents, debuts in theaters.

DECEMBER 16:

In Japan, an episode of the popular anime series Pakemon features a strobelike visual effect, causing hundreds of children to suffer seizures.

YOU MUST LEARN THE WAYS OF THE FORCE

Jedi Knight: Dark Forces II Debuts, October 1997

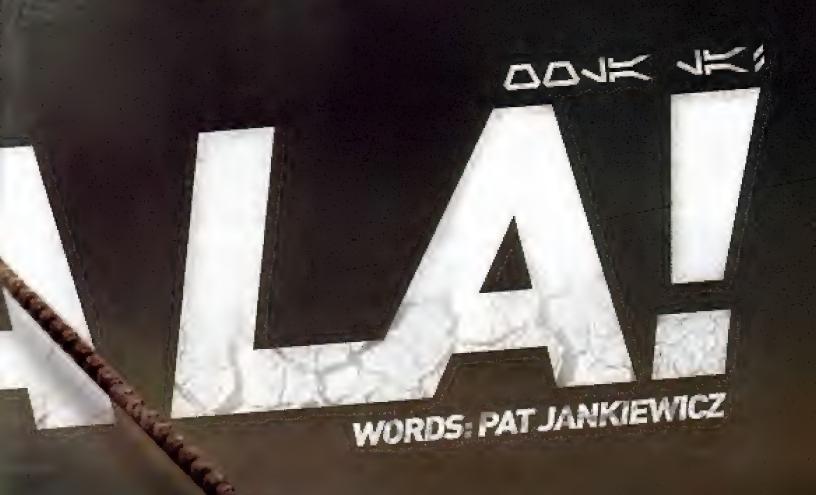
Long before The Force Unlesshed god Enight Com Forces I Propertions gamen how to use the mystical energy field to kick butt. The following to the first person shooter Star Wars, Clark Forces, and kindight combined to recoon added but scenes with interese lighthater action, and a hott of Force powers Flouding Choice, runn, and Heal. The group focused on refuction have kills Katam (played to jason Court) and his race to save the Valley of the Jedi from Jerec and his Sub-min and Jedi Knight inspired the sequels Mysteries of the 5th, Jedi Outcast, and Jodi Academy. and cemented Kyle Katarn's status as a popular star of the Expanded Universe. \Psi

THE SAGA

finally in place, the first Star Wars preguel entered its principal photography phase on June 24 at England's Leavesden Studios. It was George Lucas' first turn in the director's chair in 20 years. 'As soon as Liam Neeson walked on the set dressed as a fedi," Lucas said, "I said to myself, I guess I'm back." w



BRITISH ACTRESS AND DANCER FEMI TAYLOR LITTLE SUSPECTED THAT HER APPEARANCE ALONGSIDE JABBA THE HUTT WOULD STILL BE DISCUSSED YEARS LATER!



emi Taylor had played some exotic parts before, notably as a dancing feline in Andrew Lloyd Webber's original production of Cats, but playing Oola, Jabba the Hutt's ill-fated dancing girl, wasn't easy.

"Dancing around in the slave collar was very hard, because I was attached by a long leash to a full-sized Jabba," she says. There were four people operating labba and they only had this little monitor to see where I was. They had to really be on the ball with what I was doing in terms of the choreography. A couple of times I nearly got strangled while jumping! The tentacles on my head were even more difficult than the leash and slave-collar. They were very

"THEY PAINTED IT ON ME BY SPONGE! IT WAS HARD NOT TO SWEAT IT OFF WHILE DANCING. BETWEEN TAKES, I WOULD JUST LIE DOWN AND NOT MOVE."





 Ocia's back-story was brief, her threads were briefer still were they uncomfortable to wear? Tidealt with it by not even thinking about the costume—I never thought about how revealing it was," Taylor \$ 58 les "I just decided, I'm gonna put this on and do my job."

"I was so into the part and what t was doing, I just didn't notice until I came back and did it for the second time, when we were doing new scenes for the Special Edition of Return of the Jedi. That's when I noticed what a cool, funky costume if wasin



GREEN GODDESS!

Being coated in green paint, "was interesting." She laughs, "It took about three hours to paint me green, they had to put on four layers. I had to stand still and wait for each layer to ary. It was quite tedious, but in retrospect, it was worth it. It adds to the character. They painted it on me by sponge! It was hard not to sweat it off while dancing, Between takes, I would just lie down and not move."

"At the time we shot Return of the Jedi, I was doing Cats in London with Brian Blessed (Boss Nass in The Phantom Menace). I would literally wash off my green makeup after a full day as Onla and put on my cat makeup that night to go on stage."

Scenes in Jabba's court may have been tense on screen, but what was the atmosphere like on set? "There was such a great vibe on set; Mark Hamill used to come up between



"RICK SAID TO GEORGE, LET'S DO HER ORIGINAL SCENE AND FOLLOW IT THROUGH SO WE SEE HER RIGHT UP TO HER GETTING KILLED BY THE RANCOR!"

takes and chit-chat, Billy Dee Williams was so charming as he smooth-talked met Richard Marquand was a great; I felt I was in safe hands with him."

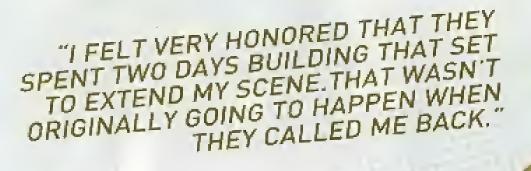
RETURNING TO JEDI

Taylor was called back 16 years later to reprise Oola in the Return of the Jedi Special Edition. "To be the only person brought back is extraordinary, isn't it? I was blown away!"

With Richard Marquand gone, there was only one man qualified to direct the additional footage, "George Lucas directed me," Taylor notes. "He said, "Oh, Femi, you look great it's really good to have you back on board.' He was so friendly and his executive producer, Rick McCallum, was too-I can't say enough great things about Rick.

Rick said to George, 'Let's do a death scene for Ooia and really build this up. Let's do her original scene and follow it through so we see her right up to her getting killed by the rancor!" You don't actually see me get killed; I guess I could have escaped)

"In 1984, I didn't know George at all. I saw him once when I had a wardrobe fitting and was just introduced to him. He was shy and sweet, I originally mistook him for a second unit camera guy because he was always behind the camera. Coming back 36 years later, I got on with him like a tong lost patt"



In one of the newly added scenes, Oola is seen tumbling to her fate in the rancor's dungeon. "I felt very honored that they spent two days building that set, to extend my scene. That wasn't originally going to happen when they called me back; I was just hired to do some blue-screen work.

"After the third day, George and Rick had me dance in front of three alien back-up singers. Rick and George conversed with each other and said 'Let's extend her scene.' They storyboarded it and showed it to me. They said, Would you be willing to stay for an extra few days? We'll build you a new set and be





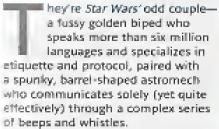


"THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A GOOD BLASTER AT YOUR SIDE, KID"



TEN MEMORABLE EXPANDED UNIVERSE ADVENTURES OF THE DYNAMIC DROID DUD! WORDS: JASON FRY

ARTOO AND THREEPIO'S **GREATEST HITS!**



Whatever the adventure, wherever the location, you can always count on C-3PO to wish he were someplace more civilized, where he'd be less likely to be shot at by stormtroopers or battle droids or pulverized by asteroids, lust as you can count on R2-D2 to coolly save our heroes from certain death when all else has failed.

The novels of Star Wars' Expanded Universe have given Artoo and Threepio plenty of opportunities for heroics-and some surprising star turns along the way. Here are 10 of their greatest moments from the novels.





THREEPIO 1. **BUREAUCRATS 0**

In Kristine Kathryn Rusch's The New Rebellion (1996). Threepio and Artoo must discover who's salbotaging the New Republic's

X-wings—a mystery that gets Artoo shot and Threepio buried in rubble. And that's before they tackle a receptionist droid charged with keeping petitioners away from Mon Mothma. "We are above your petty bureaucratic power gambits," Threepio warns, adding that "I willpersonally make certain that you are demoted to working as a translator for mechanical garbage compactors." As protocol goes, that's pretty bare-knuckled.



LICENSE REVOKED

Han Solo missed a for while entombed in carbonite, including a mission to Coruscant, in which Luke, Lando, and Leia ran afoul of criminal

kingpin Prince Xizor, As told in 1996's Shadows of the Empire by Steve Perry. Luke and Lando leave the droids on the Millennium Falcon while they infiltrate Xizor's castle. When the Falcon's hiding place is discovered. Threeplo has to take the wheel-and as Luke listens in horror via comlink, the protocol droid crunches through a billboard and a broadcasting tower. But he also manages to arrive just in time to save his friendswhich is more than good enough, under the circumstances.



LOVE BU77

Not all of the droids' heroics came in Luke's service. In 2008's 7he Clone Wars, we see Anakin Skywalker and Ahsoka Tano escape Teth's

monastery on the back of a can-cell, with Artop using his booster rockets to follow. But how did Anakin and Ahsoka get a ride on a giant fly? Karen Traviss explains that the can-cells are attracted by the engine sounds of the Republic's gunships, which they think are mating calls. Can Artoo mimic the sound of a gunship? The little droid responds that he can mimic the full range of Republic vessels—and Separatist ones too, if he's asked nicely!



A LAST MEAL

In Aaron Allston's Rebel Stand (2002), Han and Leia are captured on Aphran, leaving Artoo to plan a rescue by taking advantage of the literal-

mindedness of droids. Artoo discovers a loophole in the prison computers' routines for prisoner care. After a bit of messing with images in a database, Threepio is able to walk a lightsaber and blaster right through security and have them brought to Han and Leia. Thanks to Artoo, the prison computers recognize them as various Corellian foods, Lela's reaction as the weapons are delivered for breakfast? "Well, that makes this my favorite prison ever."

BOOKS continued next page

BOOKS continued



QUESTIONS

An intriguing subplot of the New Jedi Order sees Threepio wrestle with the thought of his own destruction or

obsolescence. Artoo doesn't think much of his counterpart's musings, telling the golden droid to face the end bravely. But in Rebel Stand, Threepio finds an unlikely philosophical partner; the combatdroid YVH 1-1A. The two watch sparks fall from Han's welding torch and wonder if sparks feel fear at knowing their end is near-an unexpectedly touching scene amidst the tale of galactic war.



TAKE THAT!

In Timothy Zahn's Dark Force Rising (1992), Luke falls under the spell of Joruus Chaoth, becoming judge and jury for the poor inhabitants of

tomark. Mara lade breaks the dark side's hold, but she and Luke then face C'baoth's fury. It's a short fight-Artoo, sitting ignored in Luke's X-wing, opens up with the starfighter's cannons, knocking C'baoth out, "Artoo," an Impressed Luke muses, "wasn't shooting to kill."



HOW CLUMSY

Threepio isn't a warrior. unless you mean that skirmish with "jedi dogs" long ago on Geonosis. (Don't ask him, he doesn't

remember.) But he proves an effective adversary when the traitorous Vigi Shesh and a squad of Yuuzhan Vong infiltrators come to kidnap baby Ben Skywalker in Troy Denning's Star by Star (2001). One offer of refreshments and one dropped glass ball later, the commandos are down and Shesh is running for her life. Was it something Threepip said?



OLD MEMORIES

As every Star Wars fan knows, Threepio has his memory wiped at the end of Revenge of the Sith. But Artoo's memory banks contain information of

enormous interest to Luke and Leia as: they wrestle with their family's legacy. In Denning's Dark Nest trilogy, Luke stumbles across a recording of Anakin. and Padmé discussing his dream that she will die in childbirth-only to have Artoo refuse to show more. When Luke finally unlocks Artoo's memory, the two trilogies are knit together by the little droid who witnessed it all.



LORELLIAN'S

If you needed a hint that 1994's The Courtship of Princess Leia would be different, you got it early in Dave Wolverton's

book. After an intoxicated Han turns to Threepio for romantic advice. Threepio tries to help, and on Dathomir he breaks. out a some he's written-'The Virtues of King Han Solo"-with accompanying symphonic music and even a tap-dance routine. Princess Leia is agog. You will



ANAKIN'S

One of the many treats of Matthew Stover's Luke Skywalker and the Shadows of Mindor (2008) is seeing things from

Artoo's perspective, When Han, Leia, and Chewie are dragged deep into the planet Mindor and assaulted by Melters, we watch Artoo monitor things with a computer's precision, until an old subroutine activates—and it's time. for the little droid to go to war.

What does the future hold for this unlikely droid duo? If the past is any guide, lots of arguments, calculations of odds, and interfacing with computers helpful and malien. And, you can be sure. there will be unexpected duties and lastminute rescues. After decades of adventures, Artoo and Threepio can expect as much—as can all the readers. who have grown to love them. 4



in the prequels, Obi-Wan knows who RZ-DZ and C-3P0 are but when he sees them in A New Hope he doesn't acknowledge them at all, Furthermore, Owen Lars doesn't seem to recognise them either, but he lived for a time with C-3P0 and saw R2-02 when Anakin was tooking for his mother during Attack of the Clones. Drew Ficklin, via e-mail



According to the Star Wars junior novelization. Owen and Beru did not recognize C-3P0 because of his shirty ne a overings and because they were single-minded They are to be the second of the droid

never said his name nor does Diversion to rest. cars. We must also secure

particularly unique about C-3PD's voice, Owen and Beru's "meeting" with Resides, astromechs were common engugh that Owen didn't pay attention. Note that C-3PO recognized noither Obj-Wan nor Owen because he had had his memory wiped.





is Wilostea a Jedi?

Anonymous, via a-mail
Though Wiosles, and many of the other
the clars on the streets of Mas Eigkey

1. I for a company
I for a

DARK HORSE PLOTS THE YUUZHAN YONG CONQUEST IN AN ALL-NEW SERIES. WORDS: DANIEL WALLACE

THE THE THE PARTY OF THE PARTY



arth Vader was nothing compared to the Yuuzhan Vong! In the New ledi Order book series published from 1999-2003, these extragalactic aggressors conquered Coruscant, annihilated peaceful worlds like Ithor, turned trillions into refugees-and, perhaps worst of all, killed Chewbacca!

Dark Horse's new Star Wars series. Invasion, is set near the beginning of the Yuuzhan Vong's dramatic assault on the galaxy we know and love, but don't

expect this to be a simple comic book. adaptation of the existing novels.

"Invasion takes place alongside the continuity of the New Jedi Order books, but Luke, Leia, Han, and the Solo kids play supporting roles to a cast of new characters," explains Dark Horse's Randy Stradley. "We feel that the events in this time period are big enough that there's plenty of room for major action."

Invasion will replace Rebellion in the Dark Horse publishing schedule, and like

PAGE 76 VADER UNMASKED! CLASSIC MOMENT

its predecessor, will appear in four- to sixissue story arcs alternating with Star Wars: Dark Times. According to writer Torn Taylor, there's no limit to the stories that can be told in this era

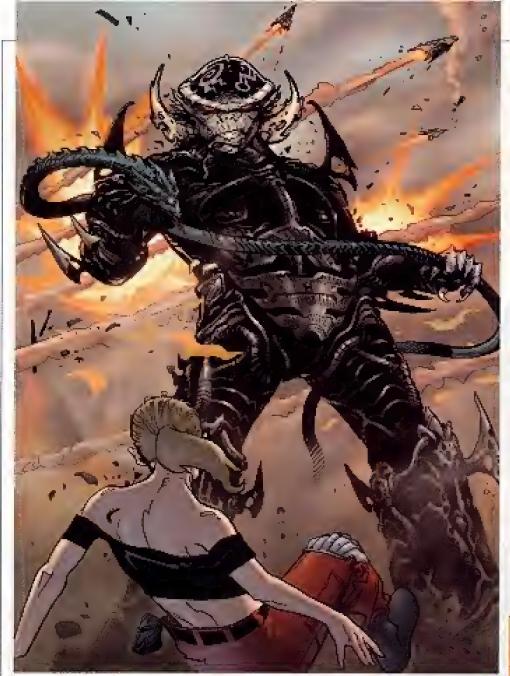
"Hundreds of trillions of lives were lost along with thousands of worlds in the Yuuzhan Yong war," he says. "Our main characters come from a family living on one of the first worlds destroyed by the Yuuzhan Vong. It's the individual struggles. of these refugees that make up the core of the book. The key for us is finding the balance between our new characters and the well-known, well-loved ones."

Artist Colin Wilson comes to the project from such 2000 AD anthology features as Judge Dredd and Rogue Irooper. He explains that since the Star Wars universe has such a unique look, It can be difficult to include an echo of that into everything he draws. "Tom and I are very aware of the fact that we need to do this really well," he says, "It's a real challenge for me to refer as much as possible to what has already been detailed in the whole Star Wars collection, and also to extend this out into our 'new' corner of the universe."

This gets even trickier with the Yuuzhan Vong, who don't come from the Star Wars galaxy. They also wield bizame organic technology that is the polar opposite of the good guys' gently-used rockets and robots. "Once I grasped the concept of their plant-based technology, and realized that underwater and outer space aren't really all that different, everything led from there," he says. "Our difficulty is that we need to show the Yuuzhan Vong more so than ever before, and yet retain their mystery-and above all, their menace. You don't invite these guys to the party, they just do what they want. Villains don't come much better than this."

As fans of the New Jedi Order already know, the series begins 21 years after Return of the Jedi when Luke Skywalker is a revered Jedi Master and Han Solo an aging family man still indulging his wildside. "Han and Luke are so well-realized. by the novels that it isn't hard to write them at this age," says Taylor, "What I try to do is remember why I first idolized. them as a child. For a lot of people, Han-

© 3 2 | © 3 continued next page



In Attack of the Clones, how come. the power couplings that Obi-Wan. and Anakin New through on Coruscant did not numb their bodies? In The Phantom Menace. Jar Jer's face went numb when his head was caught in the power couplings of Anakin's Podracor.

The extent of the effect of electrical shock is dependent on the voltage and the duration of exposure. The potential effect of Podracer energy binders on organic tissue is a umbness for several, hours. On the other hand, the power couplings in Attack of the Clones are strong enough to power an entire retinery and therefore the effect is much more intense to the point of inducing a heart attack in those not trained in the Force. So while Jar Jay Anakin and Obi-Wan were thrust into con-

COMICS continued

is 'the man.' For me, it was always Luke. I had all the original Luke Skywalker toysbecause you need him wearing white and black—and it's incredible to grow up and be asked to play with these toys again. professionally. I want our readers and our main character. Finn Galfridian, to see Luke 5kywalker the way I saw him in my formative years. When the contracts arrived from Dark Horse and Lucasfilm, the first thing I did was buy two lightsabers, and had a duel with my two-year-old son!"

Wilson, who needs to draw these iconic. characters in their advancing years, thinks their life stories can be found in the lines. on their faces. "When I first encountered these characters 30 years ago they were blank slates," he says. "Now I need to incorporate as many of the experiences we've seen these guys go through into how I draw them. I've always found it easier to draw characters that look like they've been through a lot, and those two havein

Taylor has a strong sense of what makes a Star Wars story, citing sacrifice, suspense. and humor, as well as planets that are both familiar and alien against a backgrop of absolute good versus absolute evil. He's spent so much time reading the New Jedi-Order novels that he complains "even my sinuses are blocked with Yuuzhan Vong." But all that research has sparked ideas. about where he'd like to take the series long-term. "With the incredibly talented Colin Wilson by my side. I would really like to invade the Star Wars universe for even longer than the Yuuzhan Vong did!" 🖖

ONLINE INVASION!

STARWARS.COM OFFERS THE FIRST PEEK AT THE NEW SERIES

to see where invarion will take vou, in May and June 2009. the official Stay Wars site will be publishing two exclusive online episodes of *Invasion*. The freebie installments will help familiarize fans with the heroes and willarm of the new series, set a quarter-century after Luke destroyed the Death Star

Online previews are becoming a tradition with Dark Horse—the Newest Dark Irmes story are debuted with unique cha available on MySpace.com/DarkHorsePresents. The latest offering gives a wide audience. the opportunity to experience the comic free. Check out the official site. and DarkHorse.com for info on how to view the preview comics

COLLECTING

WITH A DARTH VADER TOASTER NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE COLLECTOR WHO HAS EVERYTHING, WE TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OTHER WEIRD AND WONDERFUL VADER GOODIES. WORDS & PICTURES: GUS LOPEZ

DARK LORD OF THE STUFF!

o Star Wars character has been immortalized in plastic more than the ultimate bad quy of the Star Wars sage, Dorth Vader. There have been thousands of Vader-specific products (4,830 approximately) throughout the past 32 years of Star Wars collectibles, with thousands of additional pieces prominently featuring his image.

If you created a "Vader Collectible of the Day" calendar, it would take you over 13 years to get through each item, and by then, there would probably be another 5,000 more Vader items to list. Without question, Vader is extremely popular and always a big draw for collectors.

THE BEGINNING

So where do you start in covering the A-Z of the wide world of Vader? In the beginning, naturally, with the action figure that started it all. Much has been written about Kenner's 5tar Wars 3 3/4" line which pioneered small-scale action. figures, vehicles, and playsets. Kenner introduced the line in 1978, and one of the first figures in the series was, of course, Darth Vader. The first figure had a crude yet simple "telescoping" lightsaber that slid out of Vader's arm, with similar style lightsabers featured on the first Luke Skywalker and Obi-Wan Kenobi figures. Some very lucky collectors got the exceptionally rare doubletelescoping lightsaber Vader where the two-part saber not only telescoped out. of the arm, but the two saber sections also stretched apart themselves to extend the blade. Most collectors outfor the popular 12-back Darth Vader action figure, named for the number of characters available and pictured in small-scale form on the backs of all the action figure cards.

The 3 3/4" Vader figure was issued by Kenner affiliates throughout the world



including Toltoys in Australia, Pairtoy in the United Kingdom, Harbert in Italy, Takara in Japan, Meccano in France, Clipper in The Netherlands, and Kenner Canada in (you guessed it!) Canada.

12 INCHES OF TERROR!

Vader also appeared as a Kenner large-size figure with removable cape and lightsaber. The large size line was short-lived as the runaway success of the small-scale figures. cannibalized their sales. The large-size figure was produced in original Star Wars packaging in various countries but the extremely rare form of the toy featured the updated packaging for The Empire Strikes Back, only known to be available in Australia. The Empire packaging has also turned up in small numbers as box flats from Kenner packaging tests, but the large figure line was cancelled early into The Empire Strikes Back's run.

DAFT VADER

Among the cutest (or silliest depending on your point of view) Vader collectibles were the Darth Vader fuzzy slippers from an unknown licensee for A New Hope. These small booties had a large plastic Vader. figure head over the toe, and make many collectors' lists as a top apparel item.

The most unusual Darth Vader apparel item is by far the Darth Vader dog costume. by Rubies. Canines were no longer left out. of the Star Wars costuming craze and became the neighborhood's "Bark Lord of the Sith!"

SPUD WARS!

When Hasbro began Issuing Star Warsthemed Mr. Potato Heads, Darth Vader kicked off the line with the pun-laden. Darth Tater. There's even a massive-scale Darth Tater filled with parts from the first three Star Wars Mr. Potato Heads, Darth Tator, Artoo-Potatoo, and Spudtrooper. These parts were packed in a translucent Darth Tater that also served as a case.







Can you tell me the actual path the stolen. Death Star plans took before they got to Leia? I've always thought that all of the stories told about the plans are true, you just have to put them in the right order. Can you help me out?

It certainly seems tike every year, more and more preces to the bloated puzzle-get thrown into the mix. Chronologically, here's a brief summary of what has been said so far. In Dark Forces. Kyle Katam steats a set of plans from the planet Danuts with a lattle help from the Twillek agent Rianna Saren is seen in the game Lethal Alliance. In The Lost Jedi Adventure Game Books published in the U.K. Havel Storm steals plans for the Death Star's op file. This part of the plans of the plans of the plans make up the full set of plans necessary le determining a weakness in the Death Star. Operation Skybook, depicted in the Star Radio Drama and the X-wing video games. is the code-name for the secret Albance. eseration that sent the Tankive IV to retrieve the plans at Toprawa. In the novel Rebel Dream, Bris Theren and her Red Hand Squadron take over the Toprawa relay station. in order to transfer the combined plans to

Leia absard the Tansyle fK.

Continued

THES MORE TIN

In Japan, the Osaka Tin Toy Institute issued a wind-up metal Darth Vader toy in the late 1990s. Done in a retro 1950s style, this was part of a limited series of Star Wars tin toys. Also exclusive to Japan was the "black and white" Gentle Giant Animated Darth Vader statue. Since Vader's costume is already heavily black,

the differences between this and the more common full color version are tough to spot.





A NEW LINEL

We never get to explore what Darth Vader does with his leisure time, but the folks at IMT Accessories came up with

an idea—fishing! The brightly colored Darth Vader fishing rod and reel comes with a mini Lord Vader tackle box, resulting in the first ever Star Wars fishing kit. Perhaps with this, Vader will finally be able to catch Mon Calamaril

SITH ON ICE

Star Wars has touched so many corners of the world that some collectors seek out unusual folk art and bootleg items from other countries. During the release of Revenge of the Sith in Mexico, Vader was not only

prominent on

HEMAND

licensed goods such as the Vampiro ice cream wrappers by Nestlé, but also on unlicensed items.

In flea markets, we discovered a Star Wars marionette that was similar in style to the dozens of character marionettes sold in shops throughout the nation. There was also an unlicensed Darth Vader piñata that was small enough to pack in carry-on luggage but a likely disappointment to kids who managed to break it open since it was only big enough to hold a dozen small candies.

BLOWING UP VADER!

In the years before standardized imagery became the norm in global product releases, the artwork that graced vintage Star Wars packaging varied from product to product. A great example is the Return of the Jedi balloon five-pack produced by Ariel for the United Kingdom. Although the actual balloons are of different characters from the Star Wars saga, the brightly colored artwork on the bag is a Vader portrait.





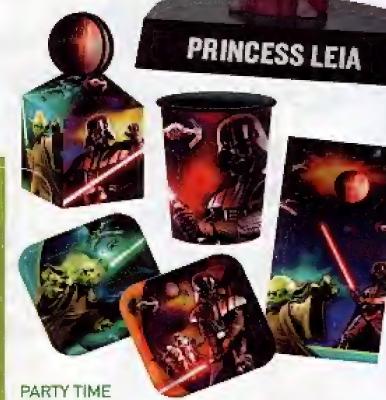


Series Three of Funko's popular Bobble Head line offers three new original trilogy characters. The Cantina Band musician almost looks like he's playing his instrument when his head bobbles around, making it tempting to buy several to form a complete Bobble Band. Ewok fans will be pleased to see Funko's Wicket Bobble Head as part of Series Three. The figure includes the Ewok's signature cowl and spear. Yub nub! The popularity of Princess Leia in her slave outfit has taken many forms in Star Wars products in recent years and is now forever immortalized as a bobbing head doll. Out now, \$9.99.



What was the reasoning behind the clone troopers being renamed stormtroopers? When did this name change occur?

Anonymous, via e-mail
Clone troopers took on the moniker of stormtroopers almost immediately after Palpatine declared himself Emperor. In the video game Star Wars Battlefront II, this transition is shown visually a transmit assembly to the national star was production notes to Episone II fine real imperior troopers seen with Palpatine were identified as stormtroopers



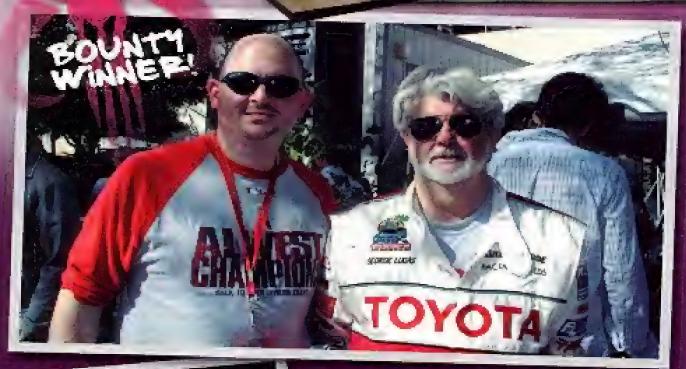
Hallmark has a new line of Star Wars-themed party items for Star Wars birthday parties, weddings, and bar mitzvahs. Using 3-D technology, Hallmark covers all of your party needs with an extensive line that includes treat boxes with Death Star handles, a range of party favors, a table centerpiece, Happy Birthday banner, table cover, character plates, cups, napkins, invitations, and thank you cards. There's even a Darth Vader piñata, which tests Force. skills in cutting the Dark Lord in half while blindfolded. Here it can be revealed: this Sith Lord can actually be filled with delicious candy. Out now, prices from 99¢.



BOUNTERS

MEET THE STARS, SHOW THE EVIDENCE, WHICH E BOUNTY! WISIDER'S BOUNTY HUNTER SECTION IS SPONSORED BY KOTOR MIVAL EACH WINNER WILL RECEIVE A FANTASTIC KOTOR WIYA STAR WARS STATUS, WORTH AROUND \$1001

KOTOBUKIYA





HEMFILLINI)

MEETING THE MAKER!

These photos were taken at the Long Beach Grand Prix in 2007. We were in the compound with the celebrity racers and met the one and only George Lucas, who was gracious enough to spend time with my family. It was such a blast to meet him and we have memories of the event that we will never forget! Thanks George! Darryl Watson, California, U.S.A.

Congratulations Darryll You've won the race for the top prize this issue! Your prize is on its way!

CAN YOU GO ONE BETTER?

DO YOU KNOW NATALIE PORTMAN? ARE YOU WEST FRIENDS WITH FRANK OZ? MAYBE YOU'VE ARM-WRESTLED AHMED BEST? WE WANT TO SEE YOUR PROTOST SEND THEM TO: BOUNTY HUNTERS, STAR MARS INSIDER, YIA THE CONTACT DETAILS ON PAGE 4 ALTERNATIVELY, EMAIL THEM TO STARWARDSHISTORICATITANTE AND COM.

WE ALSO HEARD FROM THE FOLLOWING BOUNTY HUNTERS...



Please find attached a photo of me and the late Michael Sheard (Admiral Ozzell, I met him at a sci-fi convention in Blackpool, England a few years back and Fean honestly say he was one of the nicest people I have ever met! Gootf Lee, Manchester, U.K.



DAN'S THE MAN!

I met Daniel Logan fyoung Boba Fettl during the Star Wars Weekends in 2008. I got there at fam, and after waiting for over three hours I finally got the pass for the autograph session. I was so happy! He is a very nice guy and it was his 21st birthday Marysol Pena, Florida, U.S.A.



EWOK ADVENTU

I was lucky enough to meet Warwick Davis at a Star Wars event held at LEGOLAND Windsor (U.K.) in 2009. He was there to judge a Star Wars building remain and third being invited to display as set of my LEGO constitute. I had a good chart with Mr Divis who was the constitute of a share was not easy nice guy indeed!

The Chairman Harris and the



AZING AMY!

At the recent Fan Days show in Texas, I was able to meet everyone's lavorite blue Jedi, Arny Allen, who played Aayla Secura. She was as layely as always and gracious enough to take this picture with me. I think if would fit in with your Bounty Hunter section. I hope you agree! Carey Perry, New York, U.S.A.



STAR WARS FANS: A WORLDWIDE FORCE FOR GOOD!

Each week Bantha Tracks receives emails, tetters, and pictures from Star Wars fan groups recounting good deeds: sick kids cheered, charities helped, communities supported. We may run many pictures of Star Wars fans having a great time at conventions, parties, and other events, but at their heart, most of these fan groups are centered on charity and community service. Many say that the opportunity to help make a better world is the glue that keeps them costuming and active in the Star Wars community.

We salute each and every one of you who sweats and smiles under those helmets and inside those Jedi robes, to bring joy land raise funds!) for the world around you.



The Midwest bases of the Rebel and 501st Legions worked hard in both Columbus and Claveland, Ohio, and raised over \$2000 for Autism Speaks.

"The Cleveland squad was a huge bit at Progressive Field with the kids and other walkers," reports feed! Krickhan, Dire Captain of the Sebal's Miswest Base. This returning team has grown to include members of the Rebal Legion, 501st Legion, Ohio Star Wars Collectors Club, and even just triends and family members. We had 21 walkers!"

Krickhan reports that two weeks taler many of the group drove to Columbus to take part in the insugural "Walk Now for Aulism" event at Chic State University. "This time, the Robel Legion and 501st were joined by the Mando Mercs." says Krickhan. "We had ledi Krights, Imporial stormtroopers, and Mandalorian warriom working tegether to raise awareness of aulism and support research in finding a cure."

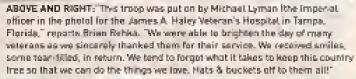
The Midway in both Col.

LIAMINE TREASES FLIGHTS STORY OF DOLLINGS

Any original art, emologic art, cornics, materialisms, fease, plantas, meeting information, or any materials voluntarily materials become the property of Barning Director, No componenties will be given to if publication submissions, and there is no quantum of publication Submissions will not be relatived. Each submission enual include the creator's nume, age, contest: intermedian, date the work was counted, and
a statement that the work it original, credited
by the persons submitting it, and that the persons
is a counter of the official Star Wors For Club.
Send electronic Was to be in the countermedian or the official Star Wors For Club.

DET IN TRACKS!







ABOVE, RIGHT AND BELOW: For the fifth straight year. members of the Midwest Garrison of the 501st Legion, at the invitation of the Treasure Chast Foundation, helped collect toys for kids diagnosed with cancer, and helped to cheer them up.

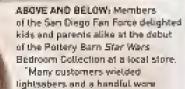
Admission to the toy show was free with a danated toy, and all the toys collected were given to children. undergoing treatment for cancer. The Star Wars characters offered souvenir photo ops in exchange. for a donation. The money raised from these donations went to gilt cards for older kids. In addition to donating ther time, members of the Midwest Berrison also brought toys to contribute. Thanks to Harby Van

Bouningen and Phyttis Schulte









costumes," reports Donna Keely. "One dad was very disappointed hat the bed sheets didn't come in king size"

Theoles to R.Camores and D. Keely:

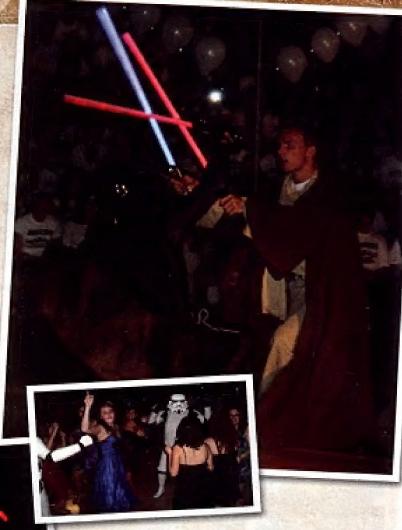
IN TRACKS: BY THE FANS FOR THE

BELOW AND RIGHT: Dan Greer, Vice President of the Student Council of Stoney Creek High School in Rachester Hitts, Michigan, sought out the 501st Legion immediately after the Council decided on a Star Wars homecoming theme last year.

My brother told me about the 501st and once I heard that they made public appearances for charitable causes, I knew we had to invite them here," says Green.

The Star Wars theme was chosen in keeping with Stoney Creek's goals. The relatively new school wanted to raise school. spirit, and this year more than 75 percent of the student body purchased tickets for the event. To help bolster school spirit even more, the event, with the help of the 501st members, shared dance proceeds with Toys for Tots.

To kick off the homecoming events, stormtroopers, followed by Darth Vader, marched into the homecoming assembly leading the captured principal, Daniel Hickey, to the middle of the gym," reports Greer. "After the National. Anthem, a very familiar Star Wars theme burst through the speakers and students, dressed as Jedi Knights and a Sith, charged out onto the floor. The Stoney Creek students cheered when the Jedi defeated the Sith." Greer reports that Jon Leopold, Commanding Officer of the Great Lakes Garrison. wrote to Stoney Creek's Student Council saying "All the troopers were amazed at how far the school went with the Star Wars theme, and how well-behaved the students were. Each member would jump at hyperspeed to do it again." Thanks to Dan Green



BELOW & RIGHT: The Imperial Funland event, supported by members of the 501st Legion, raised contributions that were disbursed to families with children battling itlness.

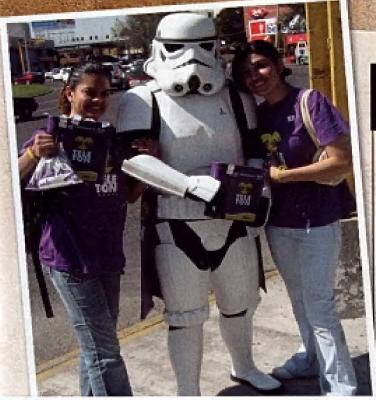
"Needless to say I am already looking forward to this year's event," reports Rodney Grundmeyer, who helped raise funds with his fellow fans. The event consisted of members from Louisiana's

Bast Alpha Garrison and the Mississippi Outpost, doing activities with the kids such as racing in go-carts, playing miniature golf, and laser tag. We had several raffles and auctions for cool prizes."





GET IN TRACKS!



EDITORIA

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

iven the current economic climate, all of us are carefully considering how we can get the best return and the best appreciation on our investments.

It's tough. There are often limited amounts to invest, and certainly a limited amount of time in which to do it.

There is one worldwide group of investors who have it figured

out. Star Wars fans, whether members of the 501st or Rebel Legions, local Jedi or Mandalorian groups, or Fan Force and fan club organizations, figured out a long time ago how to make the very most of their time and assets. Their investments in time and talent to their communities, schools, and local and national charitable causes have vielded uncountable interest and goodwill.

Giving up their weekends, evenings, and sometimes their regular workdays, these fans don their Star Wars costumes-often great investments in themselves-and put in their time. At parades, museum openings, charity functions, walks, galas, toy drives, children's hospitals and more, they sweat under the armor or under the robes to make this world a better place.

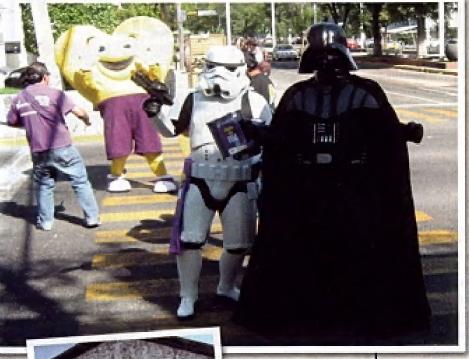
When asked, most of them tell you they do it for fun. Or that the personal reward they gain is worth the work and time they put in.

What could be a better investment than contributing to the health and happiness of a community? Bettering the neighborhood? Making fans gasp with delight? Or maybe the best investment of all, creating a smile on a child's face?

Star Wars fans, those of us who see what you do, are fans of yours. We're fans of your good deeds and fans of the joy you bring unselfishly to so many others. And maybe we're a little envious of the rewards you reap.

Few of my other investments are doing as well.

Get in Tracks! Mary Franklin Editor, Bantha Tracks



ABOVE: The 501st Legion and the Star Wars Fan Club of Guadalaiara worked with Televisa to raise funds at the annual. "Teleton". Each year, the "Teleton" raises money to help disabled kids recover and improve their lives. Thanks to Alejandro Castellanos.





(ANAKIN SKYWALKER)

Thy filming was done under conditions of quite extraordinary secrecy. Nobody was allowed to know that Darth Vader was in fact Anakin Skywalker, I was to disclose my role to nobody, not even my nearest and dearest, I really was taithful to that condition.

makeup of that terrible wound and the bald head had to fit so exactly. I found that rather a trial. I was driven down to Elstree Studios, and whisked straight away into a caravan [motor home]. I was hustled into the studio latter makeupl, and nobody saw me. It was all completely secret. "Richard Marquand directed the scene, but

George Lucas was around all the time keeping an eye on things. We worked fairly hard that day. The scene was so beautifully written that we never had to after the dialogue at all. [There was] real and genuine emotion. When that dreadful mask was taken off, it meant curtains for him. Mark rearly took my ears off with IET Startog #120, July 1997

GEORGE LUCAS
Thad to make Darth Wider scory without the nce ever seeing his face. Busically, it's just a black mask. I said, "How do I make that evil and scary? I mean, he's big and black and he's got a cape and a samural helmet, but that doesn't necessarily make people atraid of him. His character's got to go beyond that -- that's how we get his impersonal way of dealing with things. He's done a lot of homble things in his life that he isn't particularly proud of. Ultimately, he's just a pathetic quy who's had a very sad life.

The first film, people didn't even know whether there was a person there. They thought he was a monster or some kind of a robot. In the second film, it's revealed that he's a human being, and in the third film you find out that, yes, he's a father and a regular person like the rest of us."

UNMASKING VADER

RETURN OF THE JEDI 1978 [SCRIPT]

[Having defeated the Emperor] Luke is trying to carry the enormous deadweight of his father's weakened body toward an Imperial shuttle. Finally, Luke collapses from the strain. The explosions grow louder as Vader draws him closer.

VADER: Luke, help me take this mask off. LUKE: But you'll die.

VADER: Nothing can stop that now. Just for once let me look on you with my own eyes.

Slowly, hesitantly, Luke removes the mask from his father's face. There beneath the scars is an elderly man. His eyes do not focus. But the dying man smiles at the sight before him.

ANAKIN (very weak): Now... go, my son.

LUKE: No. You're coming with me. I'll not leave you here. I've got to save you.

ANAKIN: You already have, Luke. You were right. You were right about me. Tell your sister... You were right.

GEORGE LUCAS

"I get asked all the time, 'What happens after Return of the Jedi?' and there really is no answer for that. The movies were the story of Anakin Skywalker and Luke Skywalker, and when Luke saves the galaxy and redeems his father, that's where that story ends."

LUKE: Father, I won't leave you.

Darth Vader, Anakin Skywalker... Luke's father dies. 4

WHY IT'S A CLASSIC

It was the moment Star Wars lans had been waiting for: the unmasking of Darth Vader. For three films the Dark Lord of the Sith had stalked our dreams, causing us to imagine what nightmare visage was concealed behind that black mask. The Empire Strikes Back had afforded us a tantalizing, seemingly gruesome glimpse—albeit from behind—that had only fueled our adolescent imaginations once more. Now the moment was here... And George Lucas surprised us all, playing the moment as an emotional tragedy la boy losing his father) rather than a Phantom of the Opera-style unmasking we'd perhaps expected. It's a masterstroke that revealed the entire film series [confirmed by the prequels] as the story of the downfall and redemption of Darth Vader. 🙅

